(d) Presently, there is no scheme for installation of community-based biogas plants in the urban and rural areas of the country.

Monitoring of power projects

4093. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has asked the State Governments recently to undertake rigorous monitoring of power projects in order to minimize slippages in the capacity addition target of 78,577 MW, set for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the State Government's have beefed up their monitoring mechanism, after the said direction of the Centre;

(c) if so, the details of the measures taken, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Power has been actively interacting and monitoring, through meeting/discussions with the State Governments, BHEL as well as State Power Utilities for giving an impetus to various measures *inter-alia* the capacity addition. The capacity addition programme was discussed in the Chief Secretaries' Conference held on 23rd-24th April, 2007 and Chief Ministers' Conference held on 28th May, 2007 wherein, *inter-alia* early placement of orders for power projects proposed to be commissioned during the 11th Plan was emphasized. In the Chief Ministers' Conference, it was resolved that the Centre and State would ensure timely placement of orders for all the projects intended to give benefit during the 11th Plan and ensure regular monthly project monitoring for their timely commissioning along predetermined milestones. A meeting of the Group of Ministers chaired by the Minister of Power was held on 24th September, 2007 wherein detailed State-wise discussions were held with regard to accelerated power generation capacity addition for the 11th Plan. Subsequently, a follow-up meeting of Chief Secretaries of States was held on 19th February, 2008 wherein expeditious completion of ordering of all the 11th Plan power generation projects was re-emphasized. The matter was again discussed in the Chief Secretaries' Conference convened on 22nd April, 2008.

According to information made available by the States **of** Haryana, Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Rajasthan and Gujarat they have beefed up their monitoring mechanism. States of Goa, Puducherry and Bihar have intimated that they do not have any capacity addition programme and would take suitable action when the need arises.

Effect of climate change on power supply

4094. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that climate change has now affected the power supply in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to overcome this problem of power failure during the ensuing summer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Any noticeable effect on power generation or supply attributable to climatic change has not been observed so far. It is, however, mentioned that a large number of transmission lines tripped in the Northern Region on 7th and 9th March, 2008, *prima facie* on account of flasbover of insulators due to unprecedented fog, high humidity, coupled with high levels of pollution, further aggravated by the absence of winter rains. In order to maintain the smooth power flow from power surplus States to power deficient States, the Northern, Western, Eastern and North Eastern Grid have been synchronized.

The rise in temperature, attributed to climate change can, however, increase demand for power.

Revamping of RGGVY

4095. SHRI M.V. MYSURAREDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has revamped the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) if so, the details of changes proposed in the revamped Yojana; and

(c) how the Ministry is planning to achieve the goal of electricity on demand by 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government after evaluation of implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) during 10th Plan, has revamped the same for implementation during 11th Plan period.

(b) The scheme has been approved with the following amendments:

1. The States will finalize their Rural Electrification Plans in consultation with Ministry of Power and notify the same within six months. Rural Electrification Plan will be a roadmap for generation, transmission, sub-transmission and distribution of electricity in the State which will enusre the achievement of objectives of the scheme.
2. For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under the scheme, prior commitment of the State would also be obtained before sanction of projects under the scheme for:

(i) Guarantee by State Government for a minimum daily supply of 6-8 hours of electricity in the RGGVY network with the assurance of meeting any deficit in this context by supplying electricity at subsidized tariff as required under the Electricity Act, 2003.

(ii) Deployment of franchisees for the management of rural distribution in projects financed under the scheme and to undertake steps necessary to operationalize the scheme.

3. BPL households will be provided for electricity connections. The rate of reimbursement for providing free connections to BPL households would be Rs. 2200 per household.
4. The projects under the scheme will be subject to implementation of a three tier quality monitoring mechanism.